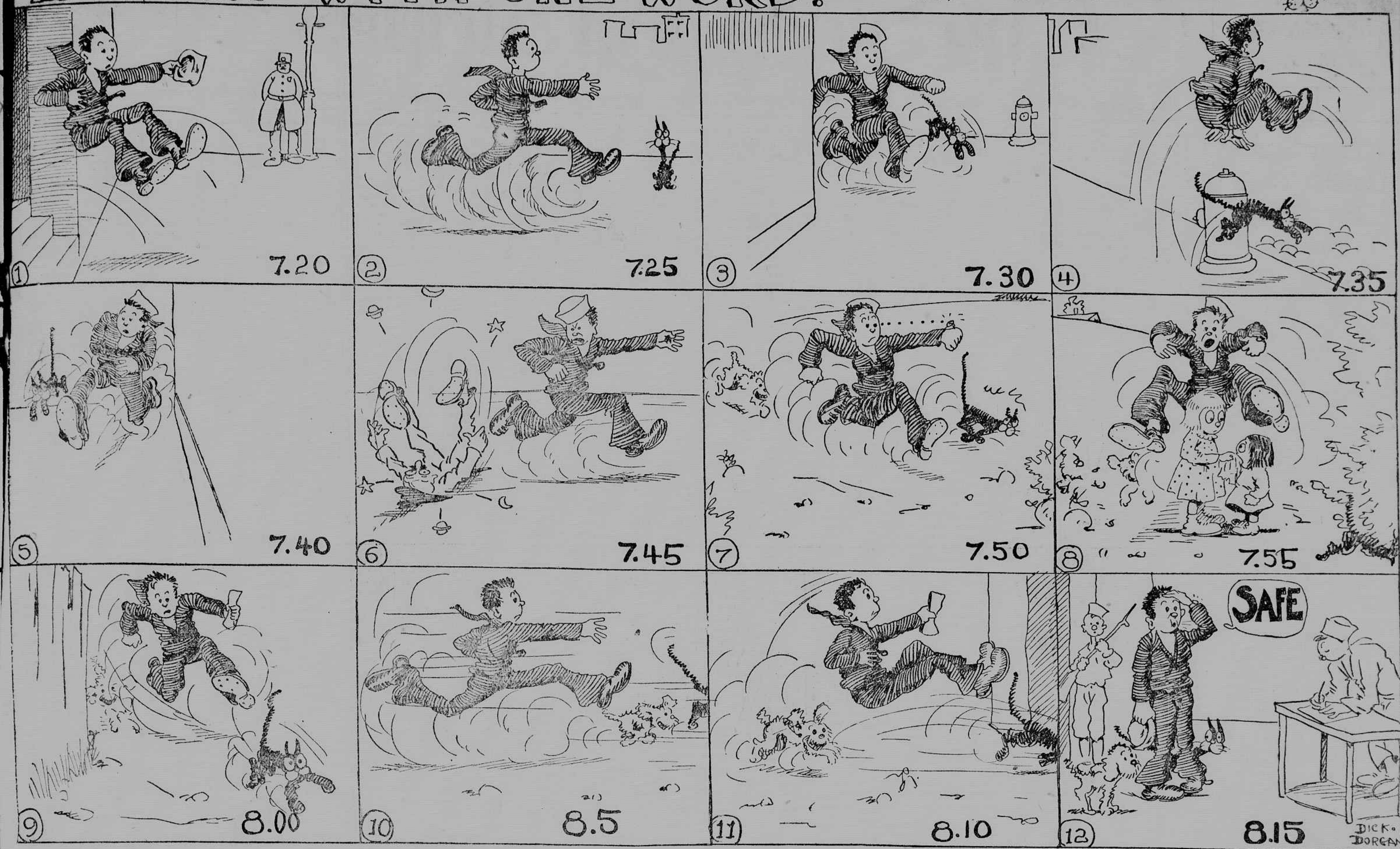


# A STORY WITH ONE WORD:- BY ·· DICK DORGAN ··



*From "The Broadside," Published by the Enlisted Men of the Naval Training Camp, Petham Bay Park*

## A Few Pages From "Niva"

A NEW magazine has begun publication in Russia. It is called "Niva" (Field), and seems to represent a slice of Russian sentiment which is decidedly friendly toward the United States. In recent numbers it has published articles by publicists, novelists and intellectuals of Russia, all of which evince a desire to establish a better understanding between the two countries. "Niva" has a circulation, it is claimed, of over a million.

One of the articles was from the pen of Professor Sokolov, and in it he justified American entrance into the Great War, declar-

“Only a few American observers could see in this the attempt of the American government evidence of its policy. On more careful consideration, they saw that the attempt at mediation in 1916 and the attempt at participation in the war in 1917, and the participation in the world war in 1918, were all part of the same plan. The United States had started from the hypothesis that Germany had a right to demand the disruption of the Allies and the possibility of a ‘German peace.’ Wilson strenuously endeavored to compromise that hypothesis, and the result was a moderate program of genuine negotiations. He was mistaken. Convinced of the impossibility of ‘peace without victory,’ Wilson decided to hasten the war to a close based on victory. The result was that the peace was never a matter of compromise, but both material and moral victory for the group of liberty loving nations. German victory would mean the hegemony of Germany in Europe, and consequently the hegemony of Germany in the world.”

"The entrance of the United States into the war is especially valuable for the Allies, for it happens when Russia was worn out. It would be dangerous to deny this practical fact. The Russian Republic fights no longer, and her discouragement is such that she must be left out of the account. American energy must cover the loss."

Another Russian writer, M. Tan, thus gives his impressions of America:

"When the Lord created the earth and her peoples he cut off the best piece and said: 'This I set aside, for reserve; there shall be a place for the future.' And so it was at a street meeting in New York, and it has seemed to me ever since a very happy and striking picture of the United States."

"They are a vast ethnic laboratory, a tremendous experiment in the creation of a new race and nation. In this creative work everything shows planning, a careful thinking out of the future and the means of attaining it. The laying out of cities, factories, schools, American life in one respect is not like European. Capitalists, the ruling classes, the laborer, are self-made men. But there is apparently in America a social abyss, the image of the Chicago packing houses, described upon Sinclair and the jails of Jack London," stating that "things are perhaps capable of change, for all is transitory."

"America cannot see a limit to her material wealth. Even modern Germany, where everything is organized according to plan, cannot compare in resources to America. The war at last assumes the form of a contest between the United States and Germany. It will be a struggle between two plans of social organization."

The Russian novelist, Kuprin, draws

and pleasantly upon the memories of his Siberian trip. He would advise a literary acquaintance: 'By all means take a journey to Siberia. What a wonderful country! Interesting, pretty and original. It has a tremendous future.' I assure you that in twenty years Siberia will cut loose from Russia and form a group of united states on the American model. The people of Siberia are like the Americans, strong, self-confident, and energetic.



*A cartoon from "Niva," demonstrating the friendly relations existing between Russia and America*

an interesting picture of Siberia in "Niva," and suggests that America may serve as a model for the organization of a great state:

"The late Chekhov, one of the subtlest, keenest and most intelligent observers of life, was in the habit of dwelling frequently

dent and intelligent. The population is diversified—peasants, government employees, prison fugitives; all sorts of sectarians, persecuted by church and state, living in swamps not accessible to the police; political offenders, but all people of resource, daring and seekers of happiness. Siberia is indeed a golden land."

# Gorky on Bolshevism

**M**AXIM GORKY is far from satisfied with the present Bolshevik régime in Russia, and he has recently dealt it a body blow in his organ, "Novaja Sh'sn" ("New Life"). Starting with his impressions of the Bolshevik uprising of last November at Moscow, he wrote, according to a translation in the German press:

"Shells were shot and stones thrown without any sense or reason, and that was the characteristic mark of the six days of bloody fighting at Moscow. Upon the whole, it was a bloody butchery of the young. On the one side were the youth of the Red Guard, who did not yet know how to hold a rifle in their hands, and soldiers who could give no reason why they were killing. On the other side was a small band of Junkers (Cadets), who discharged their duty manfully as it had been hammered into them.

"It is an impudent lie that all workers are undertrappers of the bourgeoisie and the great land owners, and that they must for that reason be destroyed. That is a lie of adventurers and crazy dogmatists. If the behavior of the individual man is to be decided by his belonging to this or that class of society, then Ulianov-Lenin, the Simbirsk nobleman, would have to stand in the ranks of the Russian agrarians, along with Purishkevitch; and Bronstein-Trotsky would have to earn his living as a commercial traveller. Terrible is the lot of our youth in this curse-laden land. We have been trying since the '80s of the past century with the heads of our youth to batter down the walls of autocracy. For fifty years the Russian youth have been in the prisons, in the South banishment, and through work in mines, and now we have before us the tragical results of that policy.

"We have in Russia no men of talent, no men even who have the capacity to work. The autocracy exhausted the strength of the country, the war destroyed physical thousands of the young. The revolution, which developed itself without enthusiasm among the trainees of strong minds, only continues the destruction of our youth. I know that the crazy dogmatists are indifferent about the future of our people. They regard the people as material for social experiments. I know that they are inaccessible to thoughts and sentiments that live in the soul of every true democrat—and I am not at all for the sake of having a democracy for its own sake. I have had these really no longer men who, under the feeling of horror at these incidents, will remove these crazy sectarians from their midst."

# Shall We Sell Our Birthright?

**T**HE forces that regenerate Russia within the next decade and reconstruct her economically and industrially are the forces that will dominate the world twenty years from now Russia with her vast resources, unlimited wealth and easily led millions, is the balance of world-power in Europe in the century that lies before us, writes a diplomatic correspondent of "The Times," of London. If we foresee Russia's true destiny in Europe and help her to achieve it, he continues, the ideals for which the bulk of the civilized world has taken up arms will dominate the world for centuries to come. If the Allies continue to grope in the cloud of immediate events, careless of the future, the enemy, who has already laid definite and tangible plans for the permanent capture of Russia, will emerge from the war with this, the greatest asset in world politics, firmly grasped for generations. And the writer continues:

"Germany beaten on the field of battle in France and left to consolidate her gains in Russia will be a Germany that has potentially won the war, no matter how drastic the terms of peace wrung from her by an Allied victory in the West. If we Allies fight this war to a conclusion and fail to emerge from it with the 180,000,000 Russians restored to stability and established on a basis in harmony with our ideals we shall have sold our birthright and that of our children's children for a mess of pottage.

"For seven months in 1917 the Germans, almost unhindered, worked night and day upon the ignorant and uneducated masses, until they succeeded in reducing Russia to a state of intellectual confusion. A separate peace and the present anarchy in Russia were the inevitable result.

"Having lost the price less Russian asset through lack of timely action, the Allies, with a stoicism appropching stupidity, turned their eyes from Russia and for a practical purposes left her to her fate. Without internal policy to guide her, and bereft of the assistance which an Allied constructive policy might give, she drifted to-day, helpless and hopeless, a wreck on the sea of history, while, methodically and painstakingly, the Germans are straining every nerve to render her the most complete and temporary advantage in the East. The rest of the world, with its eyes upon the Western offensive, contents itself with saying: 'Russia betrayed us. Let her go on her own way.'

"For want of a definite policy we are day by day losing the chance even to rebuild upon the ashes of Russia. We have lost her cooperation already in the war. That is bad. If we sit idly by and see Russia drift into the hands of Germany the time will come when we shall suddenly realize that our chance in the East has gone forever.

"It is the duty of the Allies, acting in unison, to decide immediately on a united policy toward Russia, not only for the moment, but for the years that are to follow.

We have at Versailles a conference on military policy. It should be possible, with a empire and the security of the next generation at stake, to assemble at some place a group of authorized individuals representing the interests of the Allied powers who would make it their immediate and exclusive business to take up the Russian situation, determine on the objectives desirable and forthwith find means for attaining those objectives.

"The Germans have a definite programme. It is working well. The first step was to throw Russia into confusion so that Russia should no longer be a military factor. Next, they wished Russia to become dependent on them industrially. Peasants, fanned to fury by German propaganda, have reduced Russia's industrial system to a state of impotence, which makes Germany the logical seller to Russian needs. When the war is over German agents everywhere will be the first to start the reorganization of an imperialistic and autocratic government.

# When Civil

**I**N ANSWERING this question, "Is Germany a civilized nation?" "The Outlook" quotes the following miniature portraits from François Guizot's "History of Civilization," two of those upon which the author bases his definition and analysis of civilization:

"First, suppose a people whose external life, in any case, is full of physical comfort; they pay no taxes, they are free from suffering; industry is well administered; their private relations—in a word, material existence—is for them altogether happy, and happily regulated. But at the same time the intellectual and moral existence of this people is studiously kept in a state of torpor and inactivity; of, I will not say oppression, for they do not understand the feeling, but of compression. We are not without instances of this state of things. There has been a great number of small aristocratic republics in which the people have been kept in a state of torpor, like sheep, well kept and maternally happy, but without intellectual and intellectual activity. Is this civilization? Is this a people civilizing itself?"

"I take a fourth and last hypothesis: the liberty of each individual is very great. Inequality among them is rare, and, at all events, very transient. Every man does very nearly just what he pleases, and differs little in power from his neighbor; but there are very few general interests, very few public ideas, very little society—in a word, the faculties and existence of individuals appear and then pass away wholly apart and without acting upon each other, or leaving any trace behind them; the successive generations leave society at the same point at which they found it: this is the state of savage tribes! Liberty and equality are there, but assuredly not civilization."

The first of these miniatures is so accurate a picture of Germany, the second

controlled by Germany. In five years easily acquired concessions will give Germany a grip on Russian affairs which will be unshakable. In ten years or earlier we shall see a Russian-German alliance again menacing the peace of the world at a dozen points. All of these dangers are logical and clear. The first steps have already been taken by the Germans, and while the Allies puzzle over policies the Germans have plotted an offensive on the Western front on an unprecedented scale, has not diverted them by a hair's breadth from carrying on their other business. Offensives never have thrown the Germans off their ultimate goals.

"The greatest question in the world today is whether Russia is to be abandoned or whether she is to be saved; whether Western ideals are to prevail in the country whose potential power will be the balance in history. It is not a question of years in which to decide. It is a matter now of months, if not weeks."

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of Russia, this magazine observes, that—  
“we might suppose them to be photographs taken during the last few months of existing states sitting unconsciously for their portraits.” We do not know that Gulistan’s lectures were delivered in Paris in the years 1828, 1829 and 1830. It would indeed be difficult for any writer to-day to portray more clearly and effectively the contrast between the socialism of Germany and the individualism of Russia—the one as remote from true civilization as the other than Gulistan had portrayed that contrast in these anticipatory portraits drawn nearly a century ago.

"A state in which 'every man does very nearly just what he pleases and diffuses little or no power from his neighbor, but there are very few general interests, very few public ideas, very little system' is an accurate description of the Bolshevik idea of liberty, and how quickly such liberty generates irresponsible despotism the recent history of Russia only too amply illustrates, as it often has been illustrated by past history.

"Not less accurate is Guizot's prophetic description of Germany: it is true that the German people do not pay *few* taxes; but their external life is easy, their material existence is happily regulated for them by their masters; the common people are like the heads of sheep, well kept and materially happy, but without moral and intellectual activity. Material life is happily regulated for the people by their masters, constitutes the German idea of the state; it not only regulates their social conduct, but also determines their opinions and enforces them as moral law. To see a peasant tread like a sheep, well kept and materially happy, but without moral and intellectual activity, was in the hearts of the German at home a curiously naive self-conceit and in the hearts of pro-Germans abroad an equally naive admiration of German efficiency. But if Guizot is right, neither the order of Germany without liberty nor the order of Russia without order is entitled to be called a civilisation."